

Combat Decision Range

Purpose: Provide a portable training tool to the operating forces to exercise and develop small unit leaders' tactical decision-making and situation recognition skills.

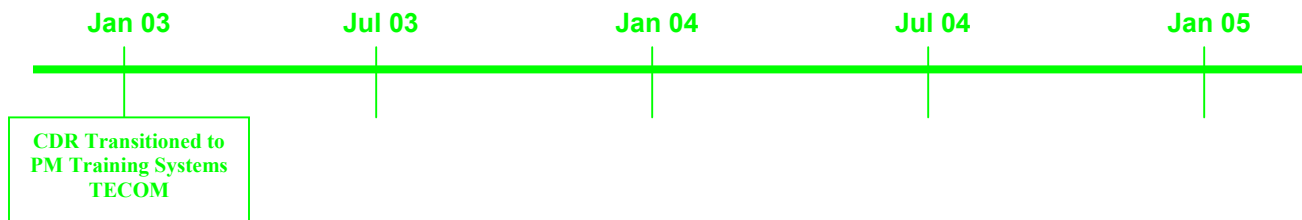
Background: Experience saves lives. The Combat Decision Range (CDR) uses facilitated, multimedia-driven combat scenarios to build artificial experience. In a typical 45-minute training session, the Marine makes more tactical decisions than in a week in the field. The CDR is a rifle range for the mind. The CDR is an outgrowth of the Marine Corps' Dynamic Decision-Making study of how selected non-military organizations deal with decision-making problems in their own environments. It is based on a tool used by the Fire Department of New York to train and assess new Battalion Commanders in the kinds of decisions required in fighting each of the basic types of urban fire situations.



Description: The CDR is published in scenarios, distributed on CD ROM, and run on a personal computer by a Marine facilitator, typically from the trainee's own unit. Each scenario puts the trainee in the role of unit leader in a combat environment, gives him a mission, and calls for him to execute it through an evolving situation painted for him in multimedia. Twenty-five scenarios have been developed covering a range of combat situations, with another five in production. The initial CDR scenarios were deployed as part of the Lab's Combat Squad Leader's Course developed for Urban Warrior. The CDR has been further exposed to the operating forces through the infantry regimental training centers and other units. It is highly acclaimed by participants as a stressful, fun, challenging, and very beneficial training tool. The CDR will transition to Training and Education Command (TECOM) in January 2003 and TECOM will continue to develop it within its Training Systems Program Management Office as a solution to requirements for Tactical Decision Making Simulations.

Deliverable Product(s): Updated versions of the CDR software.

Milestones:



Action Officer: Major Bill Nagle 784-6886